

**VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP
SEPTEMBER 2, 2014 MEETING**

**SPY POND COMMITTEE
Town Hall Annex, First Floor**

Minutes Approved Sept. 30, 2014

In attendance: Brad Barber, Bill Eykamp, Joey Glushko, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, Bob and Harriet Noyes, Agnes O'Donnell, Alan Preston, Stroker Rogovin, Dick Terry.

Facilitator: Brad Barber

Minutes: Elizabeth Karpati

2014 meetings: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Sept. 30, Oct. 28, Dec. 2. Town Hall Annex, first floor.

2015 meetings: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 6, Feb. 3, March 3, April 7, May 5, June 2 (social), Sept. 1, Oct. 4, Nov. 3, Dec. 1. Town Hall Annex, first floor, except social.

- The **minutes** of the May meeting were accepted as presented. Since the June get-together was a social rather than a business meeting, those “minutes” should more properly be called “notes;” they too were accepted.
- **Spring/Summer observations:**
 - Trails Day was successful; about one day's work is left to do in the area of the bench.
 - No goslings were seen! Also no swans' nest and no cygnets.
 - A Secchi disk reading on Sept. 1 was 1.4 meters, comparable to previous years.
 - Water weeds were not too bad this year but are starting to re-grow. The cove was less weedy and had fewer waterfowl feeding there.
 - The Noyes grandchildren found a big (hand-sized) freshwater shell.
- **Other developments:**
 - Outflow: MassHighway has put a new chain-link fence around the structure to keep floating debris out of it.
 - Getty station: The former gas station on Pleasant St. near the overpass had a leaking underground tank. The area is now being cleaned up and the company wants to discharge water that tests below the limit for toxicity into Spy Pond. The Con Com would have to give permission but has made no decision yet.
 - Swales have been installed at Rt. 2 near that end of the pond but they don't appear to be working – rain does not seem to flow into them.
- **Meeting dates** (listed above):
 - 2014: The November meeting was moved up one week to avoid Election Day.
 - 2015: Continue meeting on the first Tuesday of the month, omitting July and August.
- **Town Day, Sept. 13:**
 - Displays: “Flip chart” with pictures from Trails Days. Small version of Secchi disk. Other items left from previous years could also be used: Spy Pond Quiz and bird list. Possible new items: Handout with the goals for Spy Pond adopted by Town Meeting? Fishbowl with samples of water weeds?
 - For next year we should come up with something new. Suggestions: Handout with pictures showing what Spy Pond is used for, e.g. rowing. (Harriet has some pictures.) List of relevant organizations such as MyRWA and Arlington Land Trust – maybe a “passport” that could be stamped at the booth of each such organization.

- **Outreach:**

- The new Town website has agendas and minutes, but other Spy Pond information did not transfer well. The site is maintained by the Public Information Officer.
- Bob Noyes suggested using other avenues of outreach, e.g. posting agendas to the Kelwyn Manor Association's e-mail list and inviting interested people to attend.

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